

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STOCKH 00674 081218Z

21

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W

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O 081205Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3906

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STOCKHOLM 0674

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, OVIP, BTRA, SW

SUBJECT: VISIT OF SWEDISH BUSINESS DELEGATION HEADED BY  
CROWN PRINCE BERTIL

REF: STATE 23481

1. WIRELESS FILE FEB 7 RECEIVED TODAY QUOTES WHITE HOUSE  
SPOKESMAN AS SAYING NO REQUEST FOR PRESIDENT TO MEET WITH A  
SWEDISH TRADE DELEGATION HAS REACHED THE WHITE HOUSE.

2. IVEROTH, ON BEHALF OF THE SWEDISH GROUP, ASKED ME TO  
FORWARD GROUP'S REQUEST FOR MEETING WITH PRESIDENT. POINTING  
TO GREAT PRESSURES OF PRESIDENT'S SCHEDULE, I TOLD HIM I  
WOULD FORWARD REQUEST (STOCKHOLM 247).

3. IN ACCORDANCE WITH STATE 23481 (WHICH CONTAINS NO  
GUIDANCE OR BACKGROUND) I INFORMED IVEROTH THAT DEPARTMENT HAS  
ADVISED THAT PRESIDENT WILL BE UNABLE TO MEET WITH PRINCE  
BERTIL WHILE HE IS IN THE UNITED STATES. IN REPLY TO IVEROTH'S  
QUESTION WHETHER NEGATIVE REPLY WAS CONNECTED WITH ANDERSSON'S  
VIETNAM SPEECH, I EXPLICITLY STATED I HAD NO INFORMATION  
WHATSOEVER TO WARRANT SUCH AN ASSUMPTION.

4. EMBASSY HAS ISSUED NO PUBLIC STATEMENT IN THIS MATTER  
WHATSOEVER, BUT AT MY INSTRUCTIONS ACTING PUBLIC AFFAIRS  
OFFICER HAS ANSWERED DIRECT PRESS INQUIRIES BY STATING THAT  
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GROUP HAD MADE REQUEST FOR MEETING THAT WAS FORWARDED BY

EMBASSY AND THAT WE HAVE ADVISED GROUP THAT PRESIDENT WILL BE UNABLE TO RECEIVE GROUP. THIS WAS ALREADY PUBLIC KNOWLEDGE HERE.

5. AFTONBLADET FEBRUARY 7 REPORTS: "SWEDEN'S AMBASSADOR IN WASHINGTON WACHTMEISTER RECEIVED WORD FROM WHITE HOUSE AND STATES 'THIS TURN OF EVENTS MUST BE PUT IN CONTEXT WITH SVEN ANDERSSON'S STATEMENT ON THE VIETNAM ISSUE LAST WEEK. THERE IS NO OTHER INTERPRETATION'".

6. THE SWEDISH NEWS SERVICE (TT) TICKER LATER DENIED THAT WACHTMEISTER HAD GIVEN ANY DIRECT CONFIRMATION THAT THE REFUSAL OF THE WHITE HOUSE TO RECEIVE THE DELEGATION WAS RELATED TO FOREIGN MINISTER ANDERSSON'S VIETNAM SPEECH.

7. REGARDLESS OF THIS DENIAL, AND THE REFUSAL OF EMBASSY TO COMMENT ON LINKAGE, IT IS INEVITABLE THAT THIS LINKAGE HAS BEEN MADE AND WILL CONTINUE TO BE MADE IN THE SWEDISH PRESS. NEWSPAPERS FEBRUARY 7 AND 8, APART FROM AFTONBLADET, HAVE CARRIED RELATIVELY RESTRAINED STORIES, NOTING TENTATIVE CHARACTER OF DELEGATION PLANNING BUT ALSO, IN THE CASE OF SVENSKA DAGBLADET, TAKING ANDERSSON TO TASK FOR GRATUITOUS PROVOCATION.

8. WE WILL FOLLOW "NO COMMENT" LINE IN EVENT OF FURTHER INQUIRIES BUT WOULD APPRECIATE BACKGROUND GUIDANCE ON WHITE HOUSE DISCLAIMER THAT REQUEST WAS RECEIVED.

9. BERTIL AND IVEROTH CONTINUE TO HOPE VICE PRESIDENT COULD RECEIVE GROUP. SEE SEPARATE TELEGRAM.  
STRAUSZ-HUPE

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 08 FEB 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** GolinoFR  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975STOCKH00674  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Office:** ACTION SS  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS  
**Reference:** 75 STATE 23481  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** GolinoFR  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 11 JUN 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <11 JUN 2003 by KelleyW0>; APPROVED <12 JUN 2003 by GolinoFR>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
05 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** VISIT OF SWEDISH BUSINESS DELEGATION HEADED BY CROWN PRINCE BERTIL  
**TAGS:** OVIP, BTRA, SW  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006